



# The President's Daily Brief

9 July 1973

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Chile, elements of the Popular Unity coalition and extreme leftist groups are arming their "self-defense" street brigades, a development that is intensifying the military's concern over the course of events. (Page 1)

USSR Politburo member Kirilenko has completed a visit to Syria and goes on to Lebanon today. He is likely to be asked to mediate Syrian-Lebanese differences over the checks Beirut has placed on fedayeen activities. (Page 2)

The Peace Corps volunteers who were en route to Zaire are still being detained in Uganda. (Page 3)

Notes on the USSR-Austria and Malaysia-China are also on Page 3.

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CHILE

Elements of the Popular Unity coalition and extreme leftist groups are arming their "self-defense" street brigades, a development that is intensifying the military's concern over the course of events in Chile. Opposition parties have demanded that President Allende authorize the military to disarm all civilian paramilitary units.

*Allende apparently did not approve the arms distribution. He continues to search for a solution that would avoid a confrontation with his supporters and still satisfy the military.*

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USSR - MIDDLE EAST

Politburo member Andrey Kirilenko arrives in Beirut today, and he is likely to be asked to mediate Syrian-Lebanese differences over the checks Beirut has placed on fedayeen activities.

*This is a delicate task that will be difficult to perform without offending one of the parties. Kirilenko presumably will advise both sides to exercise restraint.*

Last week Kirilenko visited Syria where he attended the opening of a new phase of the Soviet-sponsored Euphrates Dam project. The Soviets had intended to send a less important figure, but the Syrians--who had expected Premier Kosygin--insisted on someone of Politburo rank.

The Egyptians have been pressing for a high-level Soviet visit for over a year and had hoped a Soviet leader would visit Cairo in July to brief President Sadat on the US-Soviet summit. A Soviet Foreign Ministry official recently told a US diplomat, however, that there are no plans for such a visit this summer. Instead, an Egyptian delegation will go to Moscow for the briefing and to coordinate strategy on the next phase of the UN Security Council debate.

*The reluctance of high-level Soviet leaders to travel to the Middle East reflects the strains in Moscow's relations with the Arab world and the unwillingness of Kremlin leaders to become personally entangled in the pitfalls involved in Soviet-Arab relations.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTES

Uganda: The 111 Peace Corps volunteers who were en route to Zaire are still being detained in Uganda. President Amin has announced that he will continue to hold them pending confirmation of their purpose and destination from, among others, Zaire President Mobutu, Nigerian President Gowon and East African Airways officials. Amin has stated that he suspects the volunteers are mercenaries on their way to engage in subversive activities in Burundi or Rwanda.

USSR-Austria: The communiqué issued after Premier Kosygin's visit last week pleased the Austrians, since the Soviets for the first time went along with a reference to "constitutionally anchored" Austrian neutrality. The Austrians regard this as Soviet acceptance of Vienna's right to define its neutrality. The Soviets also indicated they would pose no further objections to Austria's contacts with the European Communities. Kosygin did, however, say during an interview that the USSR would not look favorably on a defensive missile system on Austrian soil.

Malaysia-China: Talks between Malaysia and China aimed at establishing diplomatic relations have been suspended to allow each side to get new instructions. Kuala Lumpur wants Peking to disassociate itself officially from some 200,000 stateless Chinese in Malaysia and to agree to accept them should Kuala Lumpur find reason to deport them. Malaysia has also asked for suspension of clandestine broadcasts from China that support Malaysian insurgents. Kuala Lumpur now expects that its target date of August 31 for an exchange of diplomatic recognition will not be met, but it still hopes the step can be taken later in the year.

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